

Excerpt from Interrogation of ARAKI, Sadao

8 February 1945
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"Q. General, did every one at this extra-ordinary session know that these four provinces were of the territory of China?

"A. Yes. A member of the Diet expressed surprise that four provinces were considered to be under Chang Hseuh-liang's jurisdiction. He thought Manchuria comprised only three provinces. He thought these were called the Three Eastern Provinces from ancient times.

"Q. So this demonstrates that they knew it?

"A. Yes. The sovereign rights were Chinese, but at this time it was not definite whether these four provinces belonged to Chang Hseuh-liang or Chang Kai Shek, or to whom.

"Q. That is the government you are speaking of?

"A. Yes."